NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Published by JOHN B. RUSSELL, at the corner of Congress and Lindall Streets, (Six doors from the Post Office) Boston.—THOMAS G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

VOL. III. FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1825. No. 41.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

ON IMPROVING THE NATIVE BREED OF NEW ENGLAND CATTLE.

No. IV.

I contend for no particular breed of cattle, to the exclusion of all others. It is doubtless a correct opinion, "that in most of the *genuine breeds* there are differences in the *individuals*. And as many of the mixed breeds afford excellent milkers, it may be the best mode, in order to establish a good dairy-stock, whether for butter or cheese, for the farmer to breed from such cows, of whatever kind they may be, as he has found from experience the best for the purpose."* But where a stock *entirely new* is highly recommended, he can, in the first instance, only have recourse to the experience of others: and when its superiority is established by the only sure test—the greater quantity of butter or cheese from the same food—he may safely adopt it. And in rearing young cow-stock, common sense (the attention being roused to the subject) will direct every farmer to select his calves from the best milkers, having regard to the quality as well as the quantity of their milk. And this rule of selection applies as well to the *male* as to the *female* calves. In both, the situation of the *teats* will deserve attention: the farther apart the better. I much doubt whether any cow whose teats were very near together, was ever a prime milker.

Because some cows will give milk till they calve, their value has been supposed to be proportionably advanced. I am inclined to think that this is an error. I recollect the observation of a friend, made to me more than fifty years ago, as the result of his experience with two or three cows carefully attended—That a cow ought to go dry about five weeks before calving, *that her bag might be filled and distended with milk*, the effect of which would be a much more abundant supply of milk afterwards. This same friend, at a subsequent period, kept a herd of forty cows to yield milk for sale. And his son informs me that his father continued to practise by the same rule.—Another friend, whose personal attention also was given to the subject, has experienced the same effect, even to the difference, in one instance, in his estimation, of one third in the quantity of milk.—In the great dairy county of Cheshire, in England, the same opinion is entertained; and the farmers permit their cows to become dry ten weeks before calving. This practice however, may arise in part from their custom of feeding them, when dry, with wheat, barley and oat straw, until within three weeks of their calving. It is said, however, by the writer on Dairying, in REES' Cyclopedia, that if cows are *well fed*, the drying them of their milk for any time before calving, is wholly unnecessary. Mr POWEL says—"The secretions of milk are certainly augmented by milking carefully and systematically, stripping every drop from the udder; but I have not found the duration of a cow's milk in any wise affected by the period at which she had been dried, previous to the birth of her young." But he then remarks that "Few cows [if left to themselves, as in a state of nature, I suppose is meant] allow their calves to suck longer than within two months of the time of parturition. During the latter stages of gestation, the fœtus requires those portions of nourishment from which the secretions of milk must necessarily detract."—He adds "I would turn off fine cows two months before the birth of their young." Mr CRAMP, the owner of the famous Sussex cow, expresses the same opinion, as to the duration and quantity of a cow's milk. Yet the varying products of his own cow, in butter, in different years, as given by himself supports the general opinion; as may here be seen.

1st year, in 48 weeks, his cow yielded of butter 540lbs.
2d year, in 45 weeks, having gone dry 17 days 450 lbs.
3d year, in 51 1-2 weeks, having gone dry 37 da's 675lbs.
4th y'r, in 42 1-2 w'ks, having gone dry 19 da's 466lbs.
5th y'r, in 48 weeks, having gone dry 48 days 594 lbs.

This 5th year she had twin calves which she suckled 9 weeks, during which she yielded no butter.

In his details of her weekly milk and butter, Mr CRAMP says he left off milking her on the 13th of February, 1809, and that she calved the 3d of April following; yet he says afterwards, that she gave milk, this year, until she calved she would not go dry: but the milk was brackish, and fit only for the hogs.

Mr CRAMP's and Mr OAKES' cows have been called "prodigies;" and so, indeed, they were when compared with other cows. But with their *constitutional disposition* to yield from the same food, much more rich milk than cows in general, must be combined the extraordinary *keep* of both; which enabled them to produce such immense quantities of butter. In 1813, Mr OAKES' cow, then four years old, yielded only 130 lbs. of butter; but this being about double the quantity usually obtained from a common cow, Mr OAKES was induced to improve her *keep*; and in 1814 she yielded 300lbs. of butter. He then still farther increased her food, in quantity and quality: so in 1815 she yielded over 400lbs. Finally, feeding her to the full, with as much rich and varied sorts of food as he could tempt her to take, she in 1816, in $32\frac{1}{2}$ weeks after her calf was killed, yielded 467 lbs. of butter, to which add the 17 lbs. made while her calf sucked, and we have the 484 lbs. stated in the Repository.—In the last week, ending December 20, she yielded ten pounds of butter. And if in the next week she gave only six pounds, and in the ten following weeks 5 lbs. per week, making 56 lbs. and this quantity be added to the 484 lbs. we have 540 lbs.—just three times as much as she yielded the first year, on *common keep*. Hence it may fairly be presumed, that the production *of at least half of her butter*, arose from her being supplied to the full, with a variety of good, and in part with the richest food. Mr CRAMP, having decribed the various and abundant quantities of food given to his cow, and his manner of treating her, says—"he thinks that cows would nearly double, in the course of the season, their quantity of milk and butter, by following his plan."

Considering how little attention was formerly given—if indeed any were given—to improve our native breed of cattle, it is not surprising that very few of a superior character should now be seen. I doubt not however, that enough may be found of which, in a few years, a most valuable stock may be raised, if only one or two substantial farmers, in every township, will engage in the undertaking. The Agricultural Society of Essex County in 1823, offered liberal premiums for this object, the claims to be received and decided in 1828. In the present year they make like offers of premiums on claims for such improved cattle, in 1829 and 1830.

Mr POWEL and Major RUDD mention, as of very material importance, that the improved shorthorns "handle" well. The latter gives the following description of this race. "A small and fine head—a capacious chest—the shoulders lying back in the body—the ribs round and barrel like—the back straight from the neck to the top of the tail—the loins wide—the hind quarter long and straight—the twist full and deep—the bone small, and offal light.—To these points of shape must be added the great essential of *good handling*. This was formerly not considered in this country, but has now become essential, since it has been discovered to be the *touch-stone* as it were, or *index*, of the propensity to fatten." I do not know to what period of time past Major RUDD's "formerly" was meant to be applied.—But certainly BAKEWELL understood and practised on the art of "handling," fifty or sixty years ago, when he had conceived, and practised upon those principles of breeding which have been the guide of other breeders from that to the present time. I recollect that in some of ARTHUR YOUNG's works, which I met with I believe from 30 to 40 years since, he describes this matter of *handling* as a most important point, in BAKEWELL's opinion, and perfectly familiar to him as an old established principle; and gives the following striking illustration of it. BAKEWELL told him, that if obliged to choose cattle in the day time, by *seeing* them only, *without feeling*—or in the dark by *feeling* only, *without seeing* them—he would prefer choosing them in the dark by *feeling*. And he endeavored to make Mr YOUNG practically acquainted with this art of determining the disposition of the animal to thrive and fatten well, by *handling* him. The evidence of that disposition was a certain mellowness of the flesh, which was obvious to the touch of that experienced breeder, and which enabled him to discriminate and decide the character of the animal simply by feeling of him.

But although it was BAKEWELL who first made breeders sensible of the importance of *good handling*, I presume there is no observing farmer who, on the mention of it, would not assent to it as correct; and immediately say, that a *hide-bound* ox or cow would be a bad "feeder."*

* Rees' Cyclopedia—Art. DAIRYING.

*English farmers call cattle put to *fatten*, "feeders" good or bad *feeders*, as they thrive well or ill.

A *hide-bound* beast, I take it, is just the opposite to one whose *mellow feel* would indicate a disposition to thrive and fatten kindly. This term *hide-bound* is familiarly transferred from unthrifty cattle to hard bound land; which having been kept long in grass, cropped constantly, and never manured, has become hard and unproductive. Such land demands the plough and manure to make it *mellow*.

Of the extraordinary disposition to fatten, MARSHALL mentions a cow of Mr PRINCEP's, a superior variety of the long-horned breed, and rising five years old. When they ceased to milk her, she was put on prime keep for eight months, when she was slaughtered. She was "cracked on the back"—that is, was cloven along the chine; but the skin had separated from the vertebræ (back bones) which were entirely grown over, and buried a considerable depth in fat: her *bosom* was *broad*—her flesh *mellow*—her *bone extremely fine*. Her fore leg was exactly the size of a Scotch bullock of not half her weight. She cut six inches of fat on the chine; and weighed, each fore quarter 361lbs. one hind quarter 374lbs. and the other 372lbs.—total 1468lbs. of beef.

In this part of Massachusetts, the victuallers inform me that the average weight of our common cows, fattened to be good beef, is 100lbs. a quarter.

YOUNG, in his Northern Tour, crossed the country to Cheshire, the county famous for cheese. He says their breed of cows was in general small, and would not fatten to above 32 stone—that is, to 448lbs. or 112lbs a quarter, round for the beef.

According to Sir JOHN SINCLAIR, the hide, tallow, head and tongue, heart, and every other part of the animal, except the four quarters of beef, are considered as offal.

BAKEWELL's superior skill as an agriculturist enabled him to surpass his neighbours in the management of his farm, as well as of his live stock. The farm consisted of 440 acres, 110 of which were arable, and the rest grass. He kept 60 horses, 400 large sheep, and 150 beasts of all sorts. He bought neither straw nor hay. All his animals were in high flesh. His cattle, YOUNG says, "were all fat as bears." A brook ran through his farm, the water of which he could turn over from 60 to 80 acres, put into a proper state for the purpose of being flooded, at suitable times, and so rendered very productive in grass and hay.

I have observed that English writers on husbandry, mention the propriety of adapting cattle to the sort of land of which farms consist: if rich in grass, choose a large breed, if the pastures are poorer, select a smaller breed, because, they say, in the latter case, smaller cattle would do well; while on the same poorer soils the large breeds would be unprofitable. These observations refer to pasturage only: for in that part of the year in which cattle depend wholly on the *stall*, large cattle may be as well fed as small ones. But in *raising* cattle, I suppose that the *pasturage season* is chiefly relied on for the growth of our young stock; and the short grass of our pastures in general, are probably better adapted to a small than a large breed. However, with the disposition now prevailing, to improve and render our lands more productive, many farms may become suited to that middle sized race which may be produced by a cross of our native cows with the large imported bulls. To what degree such crosses may prove advantageous,—of all the farmers in Massachusetts, those of Worcester county, especially those in the vicinity of the high bred bull Denton, will be best able to decide. Experiments may be made, even where there are only two or three of the Denton blood; by keeping their milk by itself, and seeing how much butter it will produce. To make a fair comparative experiment, an equal number of native cows, equal in quality to the dams of the half-breeds, should be fed in the same manner as the half breeds, the feed of both, for quantity and quality, to be the same. Or if the half-breeds, being larger, require, and are allowed, more food, they ought to yield a proportionally greater quantity of butter. The native experimental cows ought to be as nearly as possible, of the ages of the half-breeds.

T. PICKERING.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

We recommend to the attention of the public the following Essay on the cultivation of the Peach tree. It is written by a practical Horticulturist, who has an extensive and flourishing nursery, of the choicest kinds of this delicious fruit.

PEACH TREES.

Several considerations seem to render any correct information respecting the successful cultivation of the Peach Tree, a subject of considerable importance. It is a fruit universally admired, and its cultivation here for many years past has generally been very unsuccessful. Various opinions have been entertained as to the deleterious causes which have so universally obstructed the successful culture of this delightful fruit; and it would be no difficult task to exhibit the erroneous doctrines so long and so widely propagated, respecting the sadly deteriorated state of our peach trees. That melancholy term, "the yellows," and the still more frightful bugbear of "the maggot," with all the evils arising therefrom, have been multiplied into insurmountable obstacles; and the misguided cultivators, directing their sole attention to the discovery of some particular application for the counteracting of these evils, appear to have altogether overlooked the true and radical cause of the failure of the peach tree. This, like every other vegetable, is liable to disease from the inclemency of seasons, from the attacks of insects, and other external violence, from the want of proper nutriment, and lastly, by that natural tendency to decay by which the unalterable laws of nature have wisely limited the ordinary period of duration of every thing that lives. The peach tree is of a comparatively short duration, to the pear or apple; and although by budding, or grafting, any particular sort may be increased to any amount, yet, as both these operations only extend a continuation of a part of the original plant, its time of duration must terminate; and we have no hesitation in giving it as our opinion, that the late failure in our peach orchards has been more owing to causes arising from the natural termination of the duration of the sorts so long propagated, than from any extraordinary malignancy of disease. If this opinion be correct, there is little wonder to see the long languishing state of our peach orchards, where, instead of adopting that careful and improved mode of culture calculated to introduce a renovation of the plants, the chief attention has been directed to the cure of evils from which no permanent advantage can ever arise. That our opinion respecting the efficacy of an improved mode of cultivation is correct, will appear from the facts, that where this has been attended to properly, no material injury has been experienced from these diseases, otherwise so widely complained of. It is more than twenty years since I planted out an orchard of peach trees in Greenfield, in Connecticut, for a gentleman in whose employ I then was, and which has never failed, in a single year since, of producing an abundant supply of the finest and most delicious fruit. This gentleman is a most accurate observer, and well skilled in horticultural subjects. His young trees have been reared from seed of the finest of his fruit, and inoculated from trees in a healthy flourishing state; his orchard is regularly manured, and constantly retained in a high state of cultivation.

In the spring of the year 1807, I planted out a peach orchard of about one acre upon this island, within three miles of the City Hall, and during the nine succeeding years, viz. till the year 1816, not more than six trees died out of the whole—two or three of which were not thrifty when I set them out, but owing to the quality of their fruit, I wished to try them; the others were injured by a heavy storm, when loaded with fruit; and in fact, I had more trouble in propping up limbs to support fruit, than in guarding against infected farina, or pursuing maggots.

In 1816 I commenced the cultivation of about ten acres of land on Greenwich lane, where I have continued the cultivation of the peach with great success, and have at this present moment upon the ground several thousand peach trees, perhaps in no respect inferior to any ever raised here at any former period. I would not be understood to aver, that the cultivation of the peach is a matter of as little indifference at present, as it was 30 years ago. The successful cultivator now, is under the necessity of pursuing a mode of culture calculated to renovate the species, by selecting a new and improved race of plants. This cannot be achieved by chemical plaisters, or scientific dissertations on the terrifying name of a worm, which the experience of twenty years' ineffectual speculations on these subjects, have sufficiently proved. Many fine new varieties raised from the seed of this fruit, are at present, and have for many years been, under successful cultivation, in this vicinity. Yet, buds taken even from these, and inserted on stocks raised from seed of old defective trees, may be very liable to fail; for, amongst the fruit of such trees, many of the stones have defective kernels, and although such will often grow, yet they produce a sickly race of plants, which no culture can invigorate, and which the slightest injury destroys. It is therefore as necessary to be careful in selecting good seed to raise the stocks, as to procure buds from good healthy trees.

There are also many other particulars which require great care and attention on the part of the cultivator, and which the limits of a single essay would not permit our treating of, separately. Our main object in the present essay is from a faithful statement of a long series

of actual facts, to endeavour to correct a radical error, which almost every cultivator, and I believe every former writer, has labored under, endeavoring to discover means of renovating our peach trees, by the application of artificial remedies, instead of adopting a more careful and improved mode of cultivation by which a new, a more healthy, and vigorous race of peach trees may be once more introduced throughout this truly congenial clime. This, it is true, will require the work of time; yet, if the subject could once be generally understood, a very ordinary degree of care and attention on the part of the cultivator, might effect it in a few years. The great evil exists in the want of a proper degree of care and skill, in introducing and selecting such sorts only as are worthy and proper for our future cultivation. By the establishment of a botanical garden, under the management of experienced men, the greatest benefits to society, in the improvement of this and every other fruit, might be effected. Here a liberal portion of the grounds might be adapted particularly for the introduction and cultivation of every proper and improved variety, worthy of being retained or recommended for general cultivation; and here the most improved mode of cultivation might always be ready for the actual investigation of all such as might be desirous of obtaining such benefits as are always to be derived by men of discernment from such models. The scientific speculator too, might here have a fine opportunity of testing the effects of all his favorite theories, and the public would not be left at a loss to know how far they would be safe in following such rules as his superior sagacity and skill might discover worthy of being recommended.

Great mistakes are generally entertained, and much mischief done, by the improper pruning of peach trees; and those unacquainted with the proper method of managing this part of their culture, would derive more benefit by contemplating, for a few moments, the actual form of a few trees properly managed, than reading the written or printed directions of a volume.

The state and form of the trees are often so different when obtained from the nurseries, that no particular rule can be laid down that would be applicable to the whole. The great art for securing a proper form for the head of a peach tree, depends upon cutting off the leading or main stem at the desired height the head may be wished to commence at, which should never be more than four feet high—I prefer two or three feet. The selection of four or five limbs, if possible, from the opposite side of the stem, as near this point as can be got, and in moderately upright positions, should be suffered to form the main stems of the top of the tree; and, as these generally furnish abundance of shoots from all parts as they advance in height, they ought never, in such case, to be shortened.

It is seldom that the peach tree requires much pruning, after the main branches of the head are thus formed. Wherever the inferior limbs become too close, they should be cut out; and if any supply be any where necessary, some branch, if any be found conveniently situated, may be shortened, so as to throw out a greater supply. There is one particular season which I have always found to succeed better than any other, for cutting the main stem for forming the head of the tree, and that is in April. Just as the buds begin to break, wherever any irregularity of the branches occur, in the growing seasons they may be regulated by the knife any time; but no pruning ought ever to be performed on these trees at the approach of, or during the winter season. It is not the object of our present undertaking to enter into any particular investigation of those external evils, which have, for many years, been generally considered as an unconquerable scourge of the peach tree; nor have we any objections to the man of science, developing the results of those profound researches, arising from the pursuits of natural philosophy. Our object has been to prove, by a long series of facts, (which can be well authenticated,) both the erroneousness and absurdity of ascribing the great failures of our peach trees to any malignant cause, but to other natural defects, which an improved mode of cultivation has been actually able to resist, and which if more universally adopted, would greatly facilitate the complete renovation of this delightful fruit.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

The appropriations of Congress for *Internal Improvements*, the last year, exceeded half a million of dollars.

Gen. Lafayette arrived at Montgomery, Alabama, on the 3d ult. and left there on the evening of 4th, in the steam boat for Cahawba. It was expected he would reach Mobile on the 6th and New-Orleans on the 9th or 10th, at which places splendid preparations were making to receive him.

Major Denham, appointed on a mission to the interior of Africa, has arrived at Tripoli on his return to England.

Another timber ship is building at Quebec, 200 feet deck, 60 feet beam, 36 feet in her hold, and 5,050 tons.

The Emperor of Russia has presented a diamond ring to Capt. Stonehouse, of the London brig Paris, and ordered a medal struck for him as a reward for saving the lives of several Russian seamen and an officer, during the inundation.

The rail-roads now projected, if carried into effect, would consume iron to the value of 23 millions sterling! The 111 miles of road planned between Birmingham and Liverpool will require 60,000 tons of iron for the rails alone, at the cost of 830,000*l*.

It appears by a statement in the Medical Intelligencer that there are at present in the different Medical Institutions in the United States no less than 1890 Medical Students.

In the early part of February, five inhabitants of the village of Morsine, were overwhelmed by a huge mass of snow, from the mountain under which they were walking. Their lifeless bodies were found beneath the snow, in the very position in which they had been walking, and with their knapsacks on their backs.

The canal navigation has commenced this year under very favourable auspices. One house alone in Troy has already received from the west, on the Erie Canal, 3500 barrels of flour, provision, &c. which have been forwarded to this city.—*N. Y. Gaz.*

Canals in Maine.—A writer in the Alfred Star is calling the attention of the people in York County to the subject of internal improvements. He says canals may be cut through a considerable portion of that County with very little expense. Little Ossipee Pond in the town of Waterborough, he says, is eight miles in circumference, about eighteen miles from Saco, and and twenty from Kennebunk. The writer thinks canals may easily be constructed to connect this pond with Saco, Kennebunk, or Wells, and adds, "if the Congress of the United States are determined to expend their surplus revenue in internal improvements, let our citizens turn their attention to their own affairs and while other states are calculating for themselves, let us put in for a share."

Buenos Ayres.—Accounts from Buenos Ayres, received at Boston, by the late arrivals, state that the confederacy was in future to be known by the name of "the United Provinces of South America," and that the general government was to be invested with powers similar to those conferred on the executive of the United States. The celebration of the installation of the National Congress, at the capital, had been authorized by the governors of the provinces, who had issued proclamations expressive of their warm approbation of this great event. The liberation of Peru had been celebrated at Buenos Ayres with every demonstration of joy.

Greece.—Letters from Augsburgh mention, that Sir Frederick Adams is negotiating with the Greek government, and that satisfactory results are expected. It is also stated that the object of Mr. Stratford Canning's mission to Russia, is the independence of Greece.—The report of the reduction of Patras is contradicted by letters from Trieste.

Such is the advance upon wool, that we have good authority to state, that three growths of Romney Marsh wool were sold at the high price of 18*l*. per pack, with every probability of its being 20*l*. before the 1st of March. A short time since it fetched only 12*l*.

Two hundred thousand sheep are stated to have died of the rot in Romney Marsh alone.—*Lond. paper.*

Silk Trade.—So flourishing is this important manufacture, that it is impossible to keep pace with the demand for goods. There is a general cry for more hands, and by an advertisement, from 4,000 to 5,000 would find immediate employ. Their instant arrival here might, perhaps, occasion some inconvenience as to the lodging of them, which will soon be obviated, as we have pretty good authority for stating, that not less than a thousand houses are about to be built. Several plats of land have been marked out for the purpose, as well as for the erection of four or five silk factories.
[*Macclesfield paper.*

Interesting Fact. The Baltimore Federal Gazette relates a curious fact, illustrating the vast extent of our territory, and the increased facilities of intercourse with Europe. The annunication of President Adams' election was received at that office at the same time, in the Liverpool papers, and in the Arkansas Gazette, published at Little Rock. The Liverpool paper stated the fact correctly, the Arkansas paper mentioned it as a rumor, and says that the choice was effected on the *second* ballot.

At a magnificent public dinner given to Bolivar at Bogota, one of the company gave for a toast, "Should at any time a monarchical government be established in Colombia, may the liberator, Simon Bolivar, be the Emperor". A high spirited public character, Senor Pebe Paris, then requested permission to give a toast, which being acceded to, he filled his glass, and exclaiming—"Should Bolivar, at any future period, allow himself to be declared Emperor, may his blood flow from his heart in the same manner as the wine does from my glass,"—he poured the wine out of his glass upon the floor. Bolivar immediately sprung from his chair, ran to Senor Paris, and most warmly embracing him, exclaimed, "If such feelings as those declared by this honorable man shall always animate the breast of the sons of Colombia, their liberty and independence can never be in danger."

PASTURE WANTED—Wanted to hire for a month or six weeks, to commence about 15th May next, a piece of pasture land in a dry situation, in or near Brookline, sufficient for a flock of about 150 sheep. A level tract of high land, with some shade, and if possible a stream of water running through it, would be preferred. Apply at the office of the New England Farmer.

E. PARSONS & CO. City Furniture warehouse, Union Street, near the Union Stone, keep constantly on hand for sale, a general assortment of furniture, chairs, looking glasses, feathers of all kinds, fire sets, brushes, bellows, &c. &c. *Boston, March 25.*

PATENT HOES—Notice is hereby given, that the subscribers are appointed the sole agents for vending *J. & A. Fale's Patent Hoes*, which are offered for sale at factory prices by A.D.WELD & J. FRENCH Jr. Boston, March 25, 1825. No. 713 Washington St.

PASTEL OR WOAD SEED.

The following observations are extracted from a "Treatise on the Culture, Preparation, History, and Analysis of Pastel or Woad," translated from the French by Gen. H. A. S. Dearborn. We publish it for the information of those who are disposed to naturalize this useful plant, and thus render us independent of foreign cultivators for an article which is indispensable for the successful progress of some of our most useful American manufactures.

On the proper soil for Pastel; its preparation, and the manure suitable for it.

Pastel grows naturally in dry, stony land, on mountains, and in moist bottoms or intervals.—It can be cultivated on different kinds of soil; but its quality, and the produce, depends on the nature of the soil on which it grows. If it is raised on a dry, light, and barren soil, but a small crop will be obtained; possessing but a little coloring flocculi; if upon a fat, moist clayey soil, the leaves, although very abundant, contain a greater proportion of sap, than of the coloring flocculi.

Too much moisture injures the plant, particularly when this moisture becomes habitual, in consequence of an inferior stratum, which naturally obstructs the regular escape of the water. The choice of the soil is, therefore, very important, for if judiciously chosen, the crops will be double and of a superior quality.

A soil of a mean consistence is to be preferred, rather clayey than sandy; fat, rich, warm and not very moist. If it is too light, it can be improved with compost or a mixture of earths. Alluvian land is very congenial to pastel, when it is not too moist, particularly when it is taken from a saline bank of the ocean. In Languedoc, earth from the drains and about the houses is preferred, as the most nutritive and substantial manure. Natural meadows, where wheat has grown too vigorously, are excellent for pastel, if they are well ploughed and harrowed. According to the adage of the farmers of Thuringe, *weizenland, auch waidland. Meadow land, is the land for pastel.*

The number of laborers requisite to cultivate the land, depends on the nature of the soil, its present situation, and the crops which it has produced the preceding years The cultivator should be careful to keep the land clear from weeds; this can be easily done by grubbing, as this method, which tends to destroy the insects, is very beneficial to pastel. The lumps of earth should be well pulverised, to effect which the land should be well harrowed, from three to four times, according to the nature of the soil. This labor should be repeated often, when the meadow on which it is intended to sow pastel, has not been broken up for a number of years before. If the land is moist or subject to retain the winter rains, it should be thrown up into ridges, or trenched to facilitate the escape of the water. On small pieces of ground, the land is thrown up with a spade into beds, between three and four feet wide, and then well raked. Some farmers first spade the land and then plough it.

As pastel requires a strong soil, it is necessary to increase its fertility by manure, according to its quality. A good soil should be moderately manured; for the leaves of pastel, which grow rapidly, are too succulent and do not contain a proportional quantity of coloring matter, and, of course, a less productive crop; therefore, only poor land should be highly manured.

It is by this judicious combination that the cultivator raises the greatest quantity of leaves and the most coloring flocculi.

Perfectly rotten manure is preferable to that in which the straw is not entirely decayed. The last does not produce all its effect during the growth of the pastel, and when the leaves are gathered, the straw mixes with them, and cannot be separated even by washing, which injures the quality of the pastel, and diminishes its value. In Germany the manure is spread on the land in the fall; but it is as well to put it on in the spring, if it is perfectly decomposed.

The Seed, the time and manner of sowing it.

It is said that pastel seed will not keep good more than two years. We have sown seed which was four years old and it did not come up. If the seed is old, it is best to soak it in water one night. The quantity which ought to be sown depends on the nature of the soil. Rich land should be sown thinner than that which is light and sterile.

If the plants in the first are at too great a distance, they vegetate too vigorously, and will be inferior in quality,—while on a light soil, they should be at a greater distance from each other, that they may receive more nutriment which is necessary to make them grow to their full size.

This precept is an exception to the general principles of agriculture.

If the plants are too thick, they should be thinned at the time they are hoed The quantity of seed which should be sown also depends upon its quality. When it is not too old, is plump, heavy and of a dark blue color, it will certainly come up well. It is not necessary to use so much seed when it is sown in rows. The seed should be sown as early in the spring as the season will permit. This period, for the southern departments of France, is during the month of February, commencing about the fifteenth; and for the northern departments the month of March. As pastel suffers but little from the frosts of spring, it can be sown as soon as the heat begins to produce the least vegetation. If it is sown late, the leaves are less and the product not so great. Another reason in favor of early sowing is, that the insects which attack pastel, rarely appear early in the spring.

Sometimes this operation is delayed for a month from showers and bad weather; in consequnce of which, the seed is frequently not sown in Languedoc until the forepart of March. There is a custom in some parts of Germany, of sowing the seed when the earth is covered with snow, and then harrowing it in, a few days after it has melted. The seed sometimes remains a fortnight on the snow, and from the blue color which stains the snow, the planter can discover whether it has been sown equally or not. Some farmers recommend sowing in the forepart of October, soon after the seed is gathered. They assign as a reason, that the seed comes up better, that the plants, so far from being injured by the frosts of winter, strike roots which, in the spring, accelerate vegetation; besides, the young sprouts are at this season, less subject to be injured by insects.

We have sown pastel during the three or four first days of August, which withstood the rigors of winter, and vegetated earlier in the spring. From experience and the situation of the soil, we must decide which period is the best.

After having sown during the first pleasant days at the commencement of the season, it frequently happens that the weather becomes cold and unfavorable, which prevents germination or the insects destroy the young shoots, which makes it necessary to re-plant; therefore, a sufficient quantity of seed should be reserved for that purpose.

Some small planters in Languedoc, are in the habit of sowing in the same field with pastel, beans, cabbages or other vegetables. It is unnecessary to observe that this practice is injurious to the quality and quantity of the pastel, as it prevents that particular attention to its culture which is necessary during its growth, besides the leaves and rubbish of those various plants, become mixed with the pastel and injure its quality.

The most general and expedient method of sowing, is the broad cast, and the seed should be scattered as equally as possible; therefore, but a small quantity should be thrown at a time. It then should be covered with a light harrow, after which the ground should be rolled to make the surface as smooth as possible.

In small fields, which are laid out in beds, the seeds are sown in drills and raked in, which gives a more free and equal circulation to the air, as the distances between the plants are more uniform. The rows should be twelve inches apart, and more when a plough is used to till the crop. In England a machine is used to distribute the seed more equally. This machine is similar to that used to sow turnips, (says Dickson, in his Practical Agriculture;) the rows are nine inches apart, and covered with a rake attached to the machine, or with a light rake in the usual way.

The plant comes up in ten or fifteen days; if it is perceived that the seed has not sprouted, or the sprouts are destroyed by the insects, or by the intemperature of the season, the land should be immediately all sown over again, or the vacant places, when only detached parts of the ground is without plants; but if the principal part of the plants have perished, the whole ground should be re-sown. In the first instance, holes can be made with the hoe, and three or four seed thrown in, and immediately covered over. Sometimes it becomes necessary to replant two or three times.

A calm time should be chosen to sow, for the seed being light, are easily scattered by the wind, and thus are unequally dispersed over the ground.

The Amesbury Flannel Manufacturing Company of Massachusetts are producing flannels which are said to be equal in all respects, if not superior to any made in Europe. They are finished in a superior style, and the colours, which are crimson, scarlet, green and yellow, are warranted to be lasting. This manufactory is the largest of the kind in the United States, and the stock is principally owned by a few capitalists of Boston, who were the original proprietors, and whose object, it is said, has been from the commencement not so much immediate gain, as the formation of a respectable establishment, that will be creditable in a national point of view, and secure to themselves a permanent and safe investment of their capital.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

Kensington, Oct. 2, 1824.

SIR,—I beg you to have the goodness to insert the following statement in your Paper—it is, indeed, calculated to do me service, but it is of great *public importance*, and is full of interest and of curiosity to a very large part of the community.

In 1818, I wrote in Long Island, and published in New York, the first part of the "Year's Residence in America." It was amongst other things, an account of my mode of cultivating that invaluable root, the Swedish turnip—it spoke of my cultivation of the root at Botley, as well as in Long Island. Several persons in England pursued the mode at once, and to their great profit have adhered to it ever since.—But there is one Gentleman (Mr Palmer, of Bolitree Castle, parish of Weston, near the town of Ross, county of Hereford) who has, in consequence of adopting my system, made an improvement in agriculture worthy of the attention of every farmer.

Mr Palmer read the "Year's Residence," in the winter of 1819, and being convinced by my reasoning and my facts, he, at once, resolved to act upon my advice. He prepared two fields, the one called Brick-kiln field, and the other Hiscups; the first containing 13½ acres, and the last 17½. These two fields have borne, during the last six years (1819 and 1824 included,) *three crops of Swedish turnips* and *three crops of wheat*. But, let us take the crops year by year, of the Brick-kiln field, which may serve for both, there being scarcely any difference in the crops of the two fields.

1819. Drilled Swedish turnips, a single row on the top of each ridge, and the ridges four feet apart. The crop twenty tons of bulbs to the acre. The tops from seven to eight tons.—The tops, in November and December, flung about on pasture land, to cattle, sheep, and pigs. The bulbs carried off also, and oxen and sheep were fatted with them during the winter and spring months.

1820. Drilled wheat, at eight inches distance, in ridges four feet apart; that is, on the land merely turned back from the turnip-ridges.—The wheat was drilled on the 11th and 12th of March. The crop was forty Winchester bushels to the acre, and ten gallons over upon the whole field.

1821. Transplanted Swedish Turnips, at different times, from 3d June to 7th July,—The amount of crop, 24 tons of bulbs per acre, and 7 tons of tops.—All carried off the land, and applied to the same purpose as those of 1819.

1822. Drilled wheat, as in 1820, in February; but *without ploughing the land at all.* Just drilled it upon the land as it had been left by the Swedish Turnips.—The crop was 32½ Winchester bushels to the acre.

1823. Drilled Swedish Turnips, as in 1819.—The crop 22 tons of bulbs, and from 6 to 7 tons of tops.—All carried off the land, and applied to the same purposes as those of 1819 and 1820.

1824. Drilled Wheat, as before, in February, and *without ploughing.* The amount of the crop is not yet known, it being but recently harvested. It is, however, estimated at 34 Winchester bushels to the acre, on three-fourths of the field, and 40 bushels to the acre on the remainder.

The other field (Hiscups) 17½ acres, has, during the whole of the six years, been treated in the same way; has borne similar crops; except, that, this year, its crop of wheat seems to exceed that of the other field in a considerable degree.

Mr Palmer always manures for the Swedish turnips, and never for the wheat. When these two fields have wheat, he has his Swedish turnips in other fields. Every farmer will be able to judge of the increased fertility which upwards of *six hundred tons* of bulbs of Swedish turnips, and *two hundred tons of tops* every year, would give to a farm of 250 acres, which is the size of Mr Palmer's farm. It may be said that Mr Palmer is a *clever man*, and that his *land is good.* Both are true. But, there are thousands of clever farmers, and thousands of farms of better land; and, I am deceived, if there be any farmer in the kingdom, who can boast of such a produce. And (not to lose sight of myself at last,) so completely is this wonderful produce to be ascribed to my "Year's Residence," that, not only had Mr. Palmer never put Swedish turnips at wide distances, before he read my book, but he had, before that, *never grown a Swedish turnip at all, in any manner whatever!*

WILLIAM COBBETT.

Green Peas and new Potatoes have already made their appearance at Norfolk.

A Carolina paper of April 5, states that the forests are green, the fields decorated with flowers, and the planting of corn commenced. In the midst of this smiling prospect, however, a considerable quantity of snow fell on the first of April.

RURAL ECONOMY.

Directions for preparing a composition for ingrafting fruit trees, communicated by an intelligent Agriculturist of this vicinity.

Take 4 parts of Tar, 2 of Beeswax and 1 of Tallow, simmer them well together and it is fit for use. Rosin perhaps may be preferable to Tar, but will require a larger proportion of Tallow to make it suitably soft to spread to advantage. A coat of this preparation spread over all parts of the wounded wood sufficiently thick to exclude the air will remain unaffected by the heat or cold until it is completely grown over, and is undoubtedly the best thing in use in grafting.—*Franklin Post.*

EDINBURGH EYE WATER.

Put white vitriol of the size of a nut into two gills of white rose water; with as much fine loaf sugar as vitriol. When it is dissolved shake the bottle, and on going to bed wash the eyes with it, using a soft clean cloth.

FOR CURING WEAK AND WEEPING EYES.

Make a strong decoction of camomile boiled in sweet cow's milk; with this let the patient's eyes be bathed several times a day as warm as can be suffered without uneasiness. Persons, almost blind, have been cured by persevering in the use of this prescription. It is proper, however to observe that frequently 5 or 6 weeks bathing of the eyes is necessary.

TO PROTECT GRAPES FROM WASPS,

Plant near the grapes some yew-trees, and the wasps will so far prefer the yew-tree berries, as wholly to neglect the grapes.

PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.

Stated meeting, April 19, 1825—Dr MEASE, Vice President, in the chair. The following papers were read:

1. A letter from Major S. Long, giving a description of the Rocky Mountain goat, a notice of their geographical range, and principal place of resort. The information detailed was given by Mr. Donald M'Kenzie, of the British Hudson Bay Company, with whom Major Long met on his late journey to St. Peter's River, at the mouth of Assiniboin river, and afterwards confirmed by Mr. Henry, of the same company, at Fort William, on lake Superior; both those gentlemen spoke from personal observation.—The fleeces of these native animals, one of which is in Peal's Museum, exceed in downy softness, that of the Thibet goat, and their introduction into the United States, would add greatly to the national wealth. France has already been repaid by working up the fleeces of the Thibet animal imported a few years since, for the expense attending that memorable expedition.

2. A letter to the Chairman from H. Barnard, of Hudson, New York, inclosing an account by the builder, of the mode to be pursued in constructing an arched bridge of boards, a model of which is in possession of the society. These bridges are very neat, and from the ingenious mode adopted in forming the arch with the boards, are also very strong. The inventor was the late R. Robotham of Hudson. The model of the bridge is at the service of the public. It is a proof of the excellence of the principles adopted in their construction, that they were erected in a country abounding with stone. In the alluvial district of the United States, where stones are scarce, timber abounds, and the bridges are notoriously unsafe, the wooden structures of Mr R. would be extremely useful. Even in Pennsylvania, so famous for bridges of all sizes, they might be found economical substitutes for more costly stone erections.

3. R. Haines read a letter from James Hayward, of Berkshire, England, on the merits of three Suffolk pigs sent to R. H. They are of the same breed as the one of which there is a cut in the Agricultural Almanack for the year 1820. Some directions were given respecting the breed of swine.

Thomas Wistar, Jr. of Montgomery county, Penn. exhibited several larvæ of the *œstrus bovis*, or gad-fly, recently taken from the back of one of his cows. These insects in the larva state are familiar to farmers by the name of warbles, and are known to be highly irritating to the animals they infest. In one case they actually caused the death of a young bull, (which was intended to be reared) by the innumerable small abscesses which they gave rise to, along the whole course of the spine. Some particulars respecting the various species of œstri that infest the internal organs and skin of domestic animals, were given in a report of a former meeting of this Society.

Edmund Rouvert, of New Jersey, sent a sod of a common and pretty plant, called ground-laurel, to the eating of which he ascribed the death of a cow and sheep belonging to him. It is the *Epigœa repens* of the botanists. It does not belong to the laurel family, but its injurious effects upon cattle cannot be doubted, when freely eaten by them.

The attentive friend of the Society in Scotland, sent three numbers in continuation of the Farmer's Magazine of Edinburgh. Two of them contain valuable papers on making butter, an abstract of which will appear in the next Agricultural Almanack, published under the patronage of the Society. The market of Philadelphia although famous for good butter, yet often exhibits specimens of very moderate quality; this fact proves that many, whose interest it is to bring to market an article in an acceptable form which has become an indispensable one for the tables of every class of society, have yet to acquire the knowledge of the art. The paper alluded to, refers particularly to the making and curing of butter for long keeping. Farmers will see, that like brewing, baking, and soap-making the management of milk intended either for butter or cheese, may be improved by a knowledge of chemistry; that success or the want of it, in these operations, is explicable upon chemical principles.

W. M. Walmsley, Treasurer of the Society, announced his having received two half barrels of wheat (the growth of the vicinity of Malaga), from Mr Barrell, the United States Consul at that port.—It will be sown next autumn, and the result made known.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 6, 1825.

Col. PICKERING's *Essays on "Improving the Native Breed of New England Cattle,"* which are closed in this day's paper, may be read with profit by every cultivator. The Editor does not feel himself competent to decide the much disputed question whether imported or native breeds are, on the whole, to be preferred, nor to point out the particular excellencies or defects of any of the different races of those animals. But those who may not yield assent to all Col. P.'s theories on this subject (if there are any such persons) we think cannot fail to be instructed in what is perhaps the most important branch of husbandry, by the *facts* as well as *arguments* which he has adduced in support of his opinion. Likewise his directions relative to the general management of milch cows, &c. &c. which will apply to *all* breeds of cattle are highly useful. We think that the agricultural community are under great obligations to Col. Pickering for devoting his time and talents to a subject of such permanent importance to every individual member of the great family of mankind. The plainness and perspicuity of his style are among the good properties of his *essays*, which we hope agricultural writers, particularly for our paper, will always imitate. All writings, in which general utility is the object, should be written in such a manner as to be generally understood.

The Season.—Notwithstanding the indications of an early spring, which were apparently manifested in the latter part of winter and beginning of spring, we have now cold, backward weather—

"Winter lingering chills the lap of May."

On the morning of the 2d inst. snow fell in this city sufficient to cover the ground completely, but soon disappeared. The night succeeding was remarkably cold, and on the morning of the 3d inst. the surface of the ground in the neighbourhood of Boston was whitened with frost, and ice was formed of considerable thickness. We fear that peaches, plums, cherries, &c. have suffered much, and that in many places the hopes of the season, as regards these fruits, are entirely destroyed. We have, however, learnt nothing which will enable us to form even a conjecture relative to the extent of the injury.

COMMUNICATIONS.

T. G. FESSENDEN, Esq.
Editor of the New England Farmer.

Brookline, April 27, 1825.

DEAR SIR,—A writer in your paper of the 3d April 1824 says, "I think the peach worm is not the apple worm, nor do I think it a borer. The first never penetrates the wood, but bores and feeds on the inside bark of the trunk and roots. The borer penetrates and lives upon the wood."

About three weeks ago, I removed seven peach trees, of six years' growth, from Boston to Brookline; and on examining them before replanting, found from five to twenty *apple borers*, of large size, in each tree. I examined the worms carefully, and am confident, they were borers. They had a white body and black head, and had penetrated the wood precisely as they do in apple trees. After cutting out the borers, the wounded parts were plastered with clay, but it is doubtful whether the trees live. I think they could not have survived the approaching summer, if the borers had not been removed.

There is not much doubt that eggs are deposited by a blue fly in the summer months, in the tender bark of peach trees, near the surface of the ground, which hatch into worms. To guard against this, I raise a little hillock of wood-ashes round the tree; and of ninety trees planted out the last season, I found this spring but three injured by borers.

Yours respectfully,
CHARLES TAPPAN.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

The destructive insect above mentioned has, for some years past, called forth the attention of the orchardist, and various remedies for its depredation have been proposed. The first notice we recollect to have seen of it was in a communication from JOHN PRINCE, Esq. to the Mass. Agr. Repository, vol. V. page 360. Mr Prince describes it as "a small, white, ringed worm, about three quarters of an inch long with a dark coloured head." It attacked his apple trees, and was removed "by digging round the trees, and clearing away the earth to the roots, and then, with a sharp pointed knife, a chisel, or gouge, (and a small wire to probe, if they were deep in the tree,) they were easily destroyed. Mr Prince agrees in opinion with Mr Tappan that this worm is the same that attacks the peach tree. A writer, whose observations were published in the New England Farmer, vol. II. page 370, in speaking of the borer, says, "I was surprised to find it, apparently in so many different stages of existence. I discovered first, a small substance on the bark of the tree, scarcely possessing the power of motion; secondly, a small grub, or worm, between the bark and wood, generally very near the surface of the earth; thirdly, an insect about one inch and an half in length, with many legs, and apparently a pair of wings, from four to six inches from the surface of the earth, and near the inside of the bark of the tree.

A writer in the New England Farmer, vol. II. page 241, recommends in order to preserve peach trees after digging away the earth, and removing the gum, which indicates the worm—in the spring putting a quantity of ashes round the tree, say a peck, or more, and then covering it with fresh earth.

Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia states that the fly, which causes the worm in peach trees "is blue (but not a wasp) begins its attack about the middle of July and continues its depredations until the middle of September. It wounds the tender part of the bark, and *generally* at the surface of the ground, there depositing eggs which hatch into worms," and recommends raising a little hillock of earth about the body of the tree in the month of June, &c. see N. E. Farmer, vol. II. page 241. Several other remedies against the same insect are proposed by different writers, some of which may be seen in the same page last quoted. We believe however that mentioned by Mr Tappan to be equal on all accounts to any which has yet been prescribed and superior to most of them, because it furnishes manure to the tree, as well as antidote against the worm.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Boston, May 3, 1825.

MR. FESSENDEN, SIR,—If the following enquiries and observations extracted from a letter lately addressed to a farmer in New-Hampshire, should be deemed worthy the notice of your readers, you are requested to publish them in your useful paper. Yours, truly,
FARMERS' FRIEND.

"As agriculture is the most important of all the arts, it is to be lamented that the science of it is so much neglected and the progress of improvement is so slow. Every man ought to understand the business which he pursues. The want of success in agricultural pursuits is generally owing to a want of knowledge. So powerful is the force of habit, that farmers are contented to jog on, from year to year, in the same old beaten path which their fathers and grandfathers pursued, without believing it possible to make any improvement in the choice of animals, the selection of grains, grasses, or in the mode of cultivation. Where is the farmer in your neighbourhood who knows and can describe the best method of raising corn, wheat and potatoes? What species of these are most valuable and productive? What kinds of grass are best suited to the climate and most worthy of cultivation? What is the best race of hogs? What is the best and cheapest food to rear and fatten them?—corn, potatoes, carrots, mangel wurtzel, or artichokes? What are the best sorts of cows, oxen, horses and sheep? For the common business of a farm, what kind of team is best?—horses, mules, oxen or cows? These questions are important and require the serious attention of every farmer. In England, France, and Spain, *cows* are trained to the yoke and harness, and perform the labour of oxen; and, in activity and strength, are found to be equal to oxen of the same size. It is presumed that the value of cows for the use of the dairy would not be essentially diminished by this practice. With good keeping and careful usage the secretions of milk would not be materially lessened. Mares annually producing foals, are employed and used in the saddle and harness without injury. Females of the human race, who are constantly employed in active business, make as good nurses and rear as healthy children, as those who live in a state of ease and idleness.

Why should the cow be exempted from the labours of the field, while the wife and daughters of the farmer are expected and required to be daily employed in cooking, washing, baking, spinning, milking, and making butter and cheese? Ought a farmer to treat his cows more tenderly than his wife and children? Where a man cannot keep more than three cows, a pair of oxen, and

a few sheep, (and there are many farmers of this description) if he would disregard custom and consult his comfort and interest, he would sell his oxen and purchase three more cows; they would not consume more hay and grass than the oxen. Let him train all his cows to the yoke and harness; they would form a docile and valuable team, possessing power sufficient for ploughing, harrowing, and removing manure, wood, hay, grain, &c. Three cows kept in lieu of a yoke of oxen would probably produce three calves, worth six dollars—would afford milk sufficient for 600lbs. of cheese, at $6 per hundred would amount to 36 dollars; and enable him to keep through the summer 3 pigs, which may be estimated at 3 dollars; the profit at a moderate calculation would amount to 45 or 50 dollars annually. This is no small sum to gain by milking three cows and making their milk into cheese. With this, the farmer would be enabled to pay all his taxes, purchase new gowns for his wife and daughters, procure a few books upon the subject of agriculture, and become a subscriber for the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, published weekly at Boston, by Mr John B. Russell and edited by Thomas G. Fessenden, Esq. who is well acquainted both with the science and practice of farming. Every man in this section of the country, who cultivates more than ten acres of land, and is a friend to Bible and Missionary Societies, ought to read and patronise this excellent paper. What do you think of the economy of that farmer, who keeps two old horses and but one cow? who is continually complaining of "hard times, the weight of taxes, and the want of money." Do you believe that he calculates *well*, that he will become *rich*? If he has no other resource, for support than his farm, and pursues his present plan of conducting it, I will venture to predict, that he will soon become *poor*. It is generally acknowledged, that for the business of a farm, oxen are cheaper and better than horses. Though convenient and useful, horses are expensive creatures. They make the least return for their keeping of any animal on a farm. And, when by age or accident they become unable to labour, they are worthless. Three times as many of these animals are raised and kept as are really wanted. Could farmers be persuaded to substitute the labour of *cows* for that of oxen and horses, an immense saving might be made. Let the practice be introduced; it can be done with very little expense; any man who has two cows can make the experiment. And, if it be found on trial, that cows can perform all the business of a farm—that their labour is not half so expensive as that of oxen, it is hoped, the farmers of New England will be induced to adopt a practice which has been sanctioned by the example of Mr Bakewell, one of the most celebrated farmers of Great Britain. To encourage the introduction of training cows to labour would be worthy the attention of Agricultural Societies. Let the Trustees offer premiums for the best pair of working cows. Let them be brought forward at the annual ploughing matches, be placed in competition with oxen in trials of strength and activity, and be permitted to receive the same honours and rewards.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

In a work written by the famous Arthur Young, entitled "*Young's Eastern Tour*" vol. 1, page 122, it is remarked that "Mr Bakewell used to draw with oxen, but now draws all with cows. Mr B. finds them full as handy as oxen, and that they draw just as well as oxen of the same size." Indeed we can see no reason why cows should be exempted from labour any more than mares; unless it be some high and honourable race of the "Improved Short-Horns," whose pedigree entitles them to peculiar privileges, and confers a sort of nobility on the animals, which might be thought incompatible with servile occupations. The only objection to cows being trained to the yoke of which we are aware is that for some time before and after calving they will not be in a condition to labour. This objection, however, applies with equal force to females of the horse kind. The farmer might so manage that his cows should calve at a time of the year, when team work is least wanted, or he might keep a yoke of what are called farrow cows; or if he had a large stock, might so regulate the times of their breeding that some of his cows might always be fit for the yoke. And we believe that working cows, moderately, would add strength to their constitutions, like exercise to the human species, and might thus improve the breed of cattle by imparting vigour to their offspring.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

TO PRESERVE SUET.

Cambridge, April 30, 1825.

Mr FESSENDEN,—The following recipe is at your disposal:—Suet may be preserved perfectly fresh and good for any length of time by the following method. Prepare and chop your suet fit to mix into puddings—pack it down in a stone jar or firkin—pour on molasses till the whole is covered—let the vessel be closed to keep out flies; and you have nothing to do but to dip out and drain the suet, if you do not wish to sweeten with molasses. By this simple method the sailor may enjoy a luxury in every climate; and the farmer who is fond of the article may have fresh suet for puddings or pies the year round.

Yours, &c. J.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BORERS.

Roxbury, May 2, 1825.

Mr FESSENDEN,—Now is the time to search trees for those destructive insects called *Borers*. The sap being in vigorous circulation, the wounds occasioned in cutting them from the trees, will heal very speedily. I have just been informed by a friend, that by placing common cattle's hair (to be obtained from tanners) on the ground, round the bodies of trees, will entirely prevent the ravages of these destroyers. He thinks, that the lime contained in this hair is so obnoxious to the insect, which deposits the egg, they will never visit a tree that is thus guarded. If this be true the discovery is of immense importance; at any rate there can be no harm in trying the experiment; which the writer intends to do; and hopes you will give this publicity, that others may do the same if they think proper.

AGRICOLA.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

REMARKABLE FECUNDITY.

West Bridgewater, April 26, 1825.

A cow owned by Mr Willis Alger of West Bridgewater, brought, on the 27th of January, 1824, *three*, and on the 17th of April instant, *two* bull calves; making five in fourteen months and twenty days! The *whole team* is now living, and some of it well broken to the yoke.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

West Bridgewater, May 3, 1825.

CANKER WORM.

Mr FESSENDEN—A fact has been communicated to me, by a young man of my acquaintance, relative to the supposed efficacy of the Locust Tree in preventing the attacks of the Canker Worm, on apple orchards.

He states, that there is now an orchard in a neighbouring town which was never known to have suffered from the depredations of this destructive insect. That he has known it for many years, it having been the property of his late father: that when other orchards, within a few rods of it, have been repeatedly attacked, and the prospect of fruit entirely cut off, this has uniformly escaped the ravages of this destroyer: and that its preservation has always been attributed, by those who have witnessed the fact, to the circumstance of there ever having been growing in it a large number of Locust Trees; equal to about double that of apple trees.

Although few perhaps would be willing to admit, that the fact here stated is *alone* sufficient to authorize any general conclusion on the subject, yet it may nevertheless, if made known, lead either to the exposition of an idle notion, or the establishment of an important truth.

To me, this suggestion is a new one; but there is nothing in it, that I know of, absurd or irrational. For, as there are some kinds of trees that are peculiarly attractive to certain kinds of insects, furnishing them with food and shelter, and with all the conveniencies for the propagation and preservation of their species; wherefore is it not reasonable to suppose, that there may be other kinds of trees for which the same insects entertain an insuperable aversion; and that to the canker worm, for instance, the locust tree may be as obnoxious and repulsive, as the apple is agreeable and attractive? the effect therefore, here ascribed to the locust tree, would seem, *a priori*, not only not impossible, but very probable; at least sufficiently so, to render the subject not unworthy of a satisfactory investigation.

H.

Errata.—In Col. Pickering's Essay No. III. p. 316, 1st column, 11th line from the bottom, for *without*, read *withal*. In page 317, 2d column, 9th line from the bottom, for *left* read *lost*.

In the communication on "Sheep Racks," page 289 2d column, 5th line from the top, after the word *eighteen*, add *inches*.

New Garden and Flowers Seed.

JUST received, per ship London Packet, and for sale by JOSEPH CALLENDER, No. 166 Washington street, near the Old South, a general assortment of the above SEEDS, amongst which are—

Early Hotspur Peas	Large Blood Beet
Dwarf Marrowfat do.	Orange Carrot
Dwarf bordering do.	Mangel Wurtzel,
Green Prolific do.	Swedish Turnip,
Scarlet Raddish Seed.	White Celery,
White and Red Turnip do.	Globe Savoy Cabbage,
	Dwarf Cabbage,
Early Cauliflower,	Sweet Marjorum,
Early Head Lettice,	Summer Savory,
White Field Turnips,	Lemon Balm,
White Dutch do.	

A great variety of FLOWER SEEDS; with a large assortment of American SEEDS, of last year's growth; BIRD SEEDS, of all kinds; white stone Flower Pots; common do; Flower Boxes, neatly painted.

MISCELLANIES.

From the American Farmer.

AN ECLOGUE.—ON THE PLOUGH.

Wake up, my muse! wake up, my soul!
Survey the globe from pole to pole—
To what employment shall I bow?
Pursue the arts, or hold the plough?
Upon a just and strict attention,
The plough appears a high invention.
The great Messiah, when he wrought,
Made yokes and ploughs, as we are taught,
Mogul, renown'd of India's land,
First takes the plough into his hand,
His millions then in honor toil
To pulverise the fertile soil.
The fam'd Elisha, you'll allow,
He drove the ox, or held the plough,
The stubborn earth he rent and tore,
With oxen number'd twenty-four,
Th' Immortal Job' more rich and grand
Than any in the Eastern land,
He launch'd his plough—the earth gave way,
His thousand oxen rend the clay.
Of all pursuits by men invented,
The ploughman is the best contented
His calling's good his profits high,
And on his labors all rely—
Mechanics all by him are fed,
Of him the merchants seek their bread;
His hands give meat to every thing,
Up from the beggar to the king.
The milk and honey corn and wheat
Are by his labors made complete.
Our clothes from him must all arise,
To deck the fop or dress the wise—
We then by vote may justly state,
The ploughman ranks among the great;
More independent than them all,
That dwell upon this earthly ball.
All hail ye farmers, young, and old!
Push on your ploughs with courage bold!
Your wealth arises from your clod,
Your independence from your God.
If then the plough supports the nation,
And men of every rank and station,
Let kings to farmers make a bow,
And every man procure a plough.

Reminiscences.—Amongst the multitude of relics with which the churches in Italy are inundated, Milan is in possession of the body of the famous Charles Borromeo, kept in a coffin of rock crystal, joined together by plates of gilt silver. The body is distinctly seen through the coffin, and is entire, except the nose, part of which is wanting A monk, on being asked the reason of this, gravely said, that God had permitted it because the saint, in his life time, had been too fond of *sweet odours*, and as a punishment for his sensuality, had been deprived of the half of his nose.

There are three sorts of inhabitants in Egypt. the Copts, the established Bedouin, and the wandering Bedouins. The established Bedouins occupy dwellings, and may be considered as villagers. The wandering Bedouins lead the same life as the ancient patriarchs, living under tents upon the milk of their cattle, and shifting their habitations for the convenience of pasture.—They always encamp in places where they can easily obtain water; and their frugal life secures them from the attacks of depredators. The wants of this people are very few, their cattle furnish them with the most delicate dishes, while the wool of the sheep which they rear, serves them for clothing. They consider those to be madmen who build immense palaces. Accustomed to lead a wandering life, and never feeling at ease when they are stationary, they cannot conceive how any people can be happy who live in buildings however splendid. With children of nature, the golden age seems to exist.

For near 200 years, the Turks made use of no other bullets for the cannon of the Dardanelles, than the Corinthian chapiters and columns, which they broke to pieces to answer that purpose.—If we may judge by the number of marble monuments that have escaped the ravages of these barbarians, ancient Greece must have had more superb structures than Rome itself. It is believed that a greater number of statues lie in the channel of the Tyber, than there are at present in the ancient capital of the world; but all these treasures are concealed from our sight, and we cannot judge of what we do not see. About the end of the last century, the Jews offered twenty millions of livres to the Pope for permission to search the Tyber, and to turn its course for six months. This sum was very tempting; after various deliberations of the holy conclave, they decided that as it was proposed to draw off the water in the summer, the great heats would occasion such exhalations from the drained channel as would breed a pestilence; therefore the request was denied.—*N. Y. paper.*

Lorenzo de Medicis being asked who are the greatest fools in the world, replied, "Those surely who put themselves in a passion with fools."

DEFERRED ARTICLES.

Pope's Threshing Machine.—Maj. Russ, of Farmington, writes that he has threshed with this machine, in six hours and forty minutes, with the assistance of two horses 151 bushels oats—in 7 hours, 203 bushels; in 9 hours 126 bushels oats mowed and not bound in bundles.—Also 44 bushels wheat in 2h. and 40 minutes, and in that proportion daily, cleaner and better than that threshed with flails.

Fort Monroe faces the entrance of the Chesapeak Bay, within about a mile of the Rip Raps; every vessel entering the Bay must pass within half that distance of the guns of the Fortress; and as upwards of 200 guns can be brought to bear within that range, upon an object not larger than a human being, it would appear impossible for any hostile vessel to force an entrance. The precautions taken to render this Fortress impregnable, are admirable. An external wall of about 25 feet thick surrounds the entire area. The space between this outward wall, and the inner, is filled with a canal perhaps 50 feet wide; and the whole space of this canal, together with the outer wall, is commanded by the guns of the castle.

United States Constitution.—An act was passed at the late session of the Legislature of Maine, providing for the distribution of copies of the Constitution of that State and of the United States, to be used in common schools. It makes provision for printing and distributing 10,000 copies of these Constitutions, bound in the spelling book form; and requires, "that the select men of towns, and assessors of plantations, receiving such books, shall entrust them to the instructers of the schools in the several districts, in proportion to the number of scholars;" and makes it the duty of these instructers to cause them to be read in their schools, and when practicable to be committed to memory.

Facility of intercourse between Albany and New-York.—The Commercial Advertiser of the 26th ult. says—"We have this morning received the proceedings of the legislature of *yesterday*. Twice this week we have been enabled to publish the proceedings in less than 24 hours after they took place in Albany, a distance of 150 miles from New-York."

The identical printing Press at which Dr. Franklin worked, in London, is now in the possession of Messrs. Cox & Baylis, in Great Queen street, in that city.

MR WILLIAMS' CELEBRATED HORSE

ROMAN.

Childers.
Squint, Snake,
Marske, Blacklegs,
Eclipse, Spelitta,
King Fergus' Tuling's Polly,
Hambletonian, Highflyer Mare,
ROMAN— { Camillus, Faith,
Leon Forte, Eagle,
Tambarine, Trumpeter,
Crane, Highflyer,
Middlesex, Snap, [dolphin
Miss Cleveland, Regulus by Go-
Bridge, Bay Bolling's Son,
Childers' Mare.

THIS celebrated horse was purchased of the Earl of Warwick, in March last, by Mr Charles Williams, of Boston, at present residing in London. He is a beautiful bay with black legs, and not a white hair, stands 15 hands 2 or 3 inches, and is the best bred and most powerful blood horse ever sent to this country. He has great bone, fine action, and excellent temper, and has proved himself one of the fleetest and most powerful horses in England. For walking, trotting, and racing, he is unrivalled. He won at Marpeth, beating Young Windall, Cottage Girl, Fannus, Young Glendall and four others; and, two days after, again beat Young Glendall, Shepherd, and a Bucephalus filly.—At Carlisle, he beat Jack Tar and Munito; and at Middleham, he won a sweepstake against Antonio, Rosary, Lightning, Little Thomas, and Carfacaratadadders. At New Castle, he won the King's plate, 4 miles, beating Awful, Boroughman, and Lightning; and at York, won a match against Pacha. Again at Middleham he won a sweepstake, beating Shylock and Trim. At Beverly he won the gold cup, beating the Fyldemar filly, Phœnix, and Ethelinda.

ROMAN was bred by Mr Riddell. He was got by Camillus (the best blood in England,) the son of Hambletonian, who, in 1779, won 100,000*l.* at Newmarket, in the great match against Diamond. King Fergus, the sire of Hambletonian, was the son of Eclipse, for whom his owner, O'Kelly, refused 16,000*l.* Through his dam, Leon Forte, he (Roman) is descended from Tambarine—Crane by Highflyer, who never paid forfeit, and was never beaten, and from Regulus, the Godolphin, and Childers. His pedigree has been traced in the stud-book of the Clerk of the Newmarket course through eight generations of the highest bred horses and mares in England, without a single cross of inferiour blood. Extract from the stud book:—

"ROMAN, late property of the Earl of Warwick, by Camillus, dam, Leon Forte. Leon Forte was bred by Mr Watt, in 1808, got by Eagle; her dam, Tambarine, by Trumpeter,—Crane by Highflyer,—Middlesex by Snap, Miss Cleveland by Regulus,—1815, bay colt, Roman, by Camillus, Mr. RIDDELL."

Performances in 1819—5 *prizes.* At 4 years old—50gs. at Middleham, King's plate of 100gs. at Newcastle-on Tyne, 100gs. at York, 100*l.* at Doncaster, and 68*l.* 18*s.* at Richmond,—beating Antonio, Rosary, Lightning, Carfacaratadadders, and Little Thomas, 2 miles—Awful, Boroughman, and Lightning, 4 miles—Pacha by Selim, 2 miles."

"*Performances in* 1820—4 *prizes.* At 4 years old, 45gs. at Middleham, gold cup at Beverly, 70gs. at Cheltenham, and gold cup at Hereford,—beating Pawlowitz, b. f. by Thunderbolt, Cottage Girl, Cambyses, and Wildboy, 3 miles—Phœnix, Ethelinda. ch. f. by Fyldemar, 2 miles—Thyrsis and Charming Molly, 3 miles—Shylock and Trim, 1 1-2 miles."

ROMAN will cover the present season at the subscriber's farm in Northborough, county of Worcester.

Terms—$20 for the season, the money to be paid previous to taking away the mares.

STEPHEN WILLIAMS.

Northborough, Mass. April 2, 1825.

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞Published every Friday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.